

Colorado Workforce Development Council (CWDC)

**STATE WORKFORCE INVESTMENT SYSTEM (SWIS) MEETING**

Arapahoe/Douglas Works!  
Bennett Room  
Aurora, CO

October 28, 2004  
10:00am – 12:00pm

Meeting Summary

In Attendance:

*Members:*

Tami Beaty, Pat Buys, Mary Kay Cook, Mary Hillsman, Samantha O'Neill, Elise Lowe-Vaughn (proxy for Jeff Wells), Doug Glynn (proxy for Bill Moloney), Linda Perez (proxy for Senator Dave Owen)

*Council Staff:*

Booker Graves, Steve Wright, Lee Carter, Glenn Little

*Others:*

Judy Emery

Absent:

Mike Beasley, Joe Collins, Mark Davidson, Nancy Stahoviak, Patty Tank, Mark Warne, Les Watkins

Meeting:

- I. Welcome and Introductions – Meeting was called to order by Pat Buys, Co-Chair; everyone introduced themselves.
- II. CIMS Report – Mary Hillsman

There are two agencies and five businesses that have been recognized for leadership and service delivery awards. What is the best way to acknowledge these organizations?

Booker and Mary have been meeting with Tom Mauro to discuss aligning workforce regions and encouraging the regions to apply for CPEX awards.

The goal of CIMS has always been to transition the system to an external process. The system is more ready now to enter into CPEX training. For regions that are not ready, there is technical assistance available from CPEX to bring them up to speed. It would be a good idea to meet with the Directors at their meeting in January to get feedback and input on what they want, then come back to the SWIS Committee and discuss what they are willing to participate in and how that aligns with what CPEX can provide.

What are the different criteria for the CPEX awards and what is the process for applying for them? The Foothills Award is about Approach, the Timberline Award is about Approach and Deployment, and the Peak Award is based on Approach, Deployment, and Business results. The application is 30 pages long and the difficulty of the process depends on the complexity of the organization. The value of the application process is the external feedback that is received. It forces the right questions to be asked based on the actual data collected. One ongoing struggle is how to explain what workforce centers do, because of the complexity of their programs.

The target year for application to CPEX is 2006. CPEX is being engaged to have examiners work with individual regions about how they can achieve goals.

Returning to the recognition of the businesses, after some discussion, the motion was made, seconded, and passed to make personal site visits, inviting the WIB and Directors to participate in acknowledging the organizations' accomplishments.

### III. Project Train Update – Judy Emery

There are several initiatives that are being worked on.

- The DPN initiative is being funded from the DOL and Social Security Administration. Twenty-two people are going to Chicago for Navigator training and some Colorado Navigators will be making presentations at the conference. Colorado is one of four states to be part of a national study.
- State Resource Mapping is completed for the Systems Change Transition grant. The strategic plan will be completed by December. There are three local sites that have been selected initially.
- The Social Security Administration Youth demonstration grant is a research study that is not available to everyone. Colorado is the only state doing this with the Social Security Administration (SSA). This is a transition grant

focusing on 14 to 25 year-olds. Every dollar saved by a youth toward housing, etc. will be matched with three dollars and put into an account for them.

- Technical Assistance and Training Network and Evaluation Network has been awarded to Denver as part of a five-year project. A project similar to the Navigator model is being used. It will involve TANFF mothers with children with developmental disabilities in a one-stop environment.
- There is a research study being conducted which uses animation to help kids with disabilities learn. The virtual environment will help with job exploration, including job interests and job coaching.

How do we compare with other states? We are on the map when it comes to helping kids with disabilities. Colorado was hand selected for the youth research grant based on our reputation in the field.

#### IV. Director's Report – Booker T. Graves

Review of awarded grants. The review committee convened to award grants on behalf of the Council. In future grant reports, the projected number of people that will be assisted and the partners involved will be included. The transmission of the grant report to the Council was approved.

Review of Discretionary Funds report. Reviewed the status of available funds and this will be included in the report to the full Council. The motion to accept the report was moved, seconded, and passed.

Reviewed the proposed meeting schedule for 2005. The State Youth Council and the BOAM Committee have not yet scheduled their meetings for 2005. A motion to accept the scheduled meetings was moved, seconded, and passed.

Report on grant proposals that have been submitted to the DOL.

- An Offender Re-Entry grant was submitted by the Workforce Development Council to assist 17 to 25 year-olds. It hopes to redirect 600 people over the life of the contract, which is five years. The grant proposal is seeking \$2,000,000 from the USDOL.
- A healthcare grant has been submitted to the USDOL. It's a technology and innovation grant with a healthcare focus. It seeks \$3,000,000 over three years to fund a five-year project. It will increase the number and quality of trained

nurses, and decrease the time it takes to train healthcare professionals. The goal is to produce 1000 healthcare workers over three years.

WIA Reauthorization is dead for this legislature. We won't see reauthorization until next year.

CDLE has tasked the Council with providing input on needs around the state. The Workforce Directors have formed an LMI Advisory Taskforce and it is recommended that the SWIS Committee adopt this taskforce as a liaison to the Council and LMI. The motion to adopt was moved, seconded, and passed.

The State Youth Council made a request to modify the use of the funds that the SWIS Committee gave them to use to fund additional youth grant proposals. The request is to use the money, instead, to fund an already approved grant with more money. The money has since been granted to the Denver Office of Economic Development, Division of Workforce Development by the SDPC. After a brief discussion, the motion to reject the proposal was moved, seconded, and passed.

V. College Opportunity Fund – Samantha O'Neill

Currently, there is a 145 credit limit when receiving state funding. CCHE will grant an additional 30 credits if the student is unemployed. Can the workforce regions support students beyond the 145 limit? The issue will be taken to the next Operator's Meeting.

Currently, students bridge the gap between GED and the Community College System using remedial classes. These remedial classes must fund themselves, however, they are subsidized with state funds through next year. At that point it will be a fee-for-service situation. TANFF clients have major challenges with the program.

Looking at other states that have the same problem and how they solve it. How do they make it a seamless process? Would like to use some money to bring a more dynamic state in to evaluate the Colorado system to help in solving the problems. This issue will be added as an agenda item in the future.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:15pm.